

**“A Journey Through Texas” *from* The Journey of Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca**  
by Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca

**“Boulders Taller Than the Great Tower of Seville”** by García López de Cárdenas

**Reading Strategy: Recognize Signal Words**

One way to make sense of a writer’s work is to look for signal words that point out relationships among the ideas and events presented. **Signal words** may place events in time, indicate reasons or cause-and-effect relationships, or set up a contrast between ideas.

**Time:** *On that same day* many fell sick, and *on the next day* eight of them died.

**Reason:** We called them “of the cows,” *because* most of the cows die near there.

**Contrast:** What from the top seemed easy was, *on the contrary*, rough and difficult.

**DIRECTIONS:** *After reading each numbered passage in the first column, write the signal word or words it contains and the type of relationship that each signal word indicates.*

<b>Passage</b>	<b>Signal Words</b>	<b>Relationship</b>
1. They entreated us not to be angry any longer, because, even if it was their death, they would take us where we chose.		
2. The next morning all those who were strong enough came along, and at the end of three journeys we halted.		
3. The people who heard of our approach did not come out to meet us, but we found them at their homes.		
4. Although this was the warm season, no one could live in this canyon because of the cold.		
5. They returned about four o’clock in the afternoon, as they could not reach the bottom because of the many obstacles they met.		